

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-20 of U.S. patent 6,723,592.

Addressing now the above-noted rejection under obviousness-type double patenting, that rejection is obviated by the present response. More particularly, filed with the present response is a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. patent 6,723,592. The submission of that Terminal Disclaimer is believed to obviate the above-noted double patent rejection.

Moreover, applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed with the original application papers on January 20, 2004, citing references to Tran '527 and Tran '756. At this point applicants have not received an initialed version of the Form PTO-1449 filed with that Information Disclosure Statement, nor alternatively have those references been listed on a Form PTO-892. It is clear from paragraph 2 of the Office Action that those references have been considered, but applicants respectfully request that those references be formally made of record.

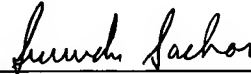
Moreover, applicants note that a list of related cases was filed on April 20, 2004, for which applicants also respectfully request consideration.

Applicants also note that with the outstanding Office Action no Form PTO-892 has been provided citing the other references noted in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, namely Lee '884, Fujikawa '178, and Stern '552. For clarity of the record applicants respectfully request that those references be properly indicated on a Form PTO-892. That is, applicants respectfully request that the references noted in paragraph 2 of the Office Action be properly made of record so that they are properly listed on the face of an issued patent.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
SNS:smi

I:\ATTY\SNS\24's\247359\247359US-AM DUE 090304.DOC